

QUEENSLAND SAWMILL STATISTICS - DECEMBER QUARTER, 1956.

This bulletin has been compiled, in co-operation with the Sub-Department of Forestry, from returns lodged by the proprietors of sawmills licensed throughout the State. Some returns had not been received when these statistics were compiled, but estimates were included for them. The figures for the last two quarters are therefore subject to revision when final figures for 1956-57 are completed.

Log Consumption (see Tables 1 and 3).

In the December quarter of 1956 mills used logs measuring 120,845,000 super. feet, which was very close to the usage in the corresponding quarter of 1955, being 620,000 super. feet., or 0.5 per cent., less than the total for that quarter. The medium-sized mills, with capacities of from 5,000 to 15,000 super. feet, recorded a total cut nearly equal to the combined totals of all other sawmills. Mills producing plywood and veneers continued the high level of production which has been in evidence since September quarter of 1954.

Mills in Operation (see Table 2).

The total of 728 mills operating in the December quarter of 1956 was 5 less than in the September quarter of 1956, and 16 less than in December quarter, 1955. In the northern divisions of Townsville and Cairns, 115 mills operated with an average cut of 231,600 super. feet per mill, while in the rest of the State 613 mills averaged 153,700 super. feet per mill. The 210 mills with daily capacities of from 5,000 to 15,000 super. feet were the largest consumers of logs with a total of 52.5m. super. feet. The 448 mills with daily capacities of under 5,000 super. feet used 33.5m. super. feet, while the 33 large mills with capacities of more than 15,000 super. feet used 23.9m. super. feet, and plywood and veneer mills used 10.9m. super. feet.

Species of Timber (see Tables 1 and 3).

Compared with the previous December quarter, relatively large increases in the cuts of plantation thinnings, cypress pine, and cabinet woods were offset by a large decrease in miscellaneous timbers and a small relative decrease in the very large cut of hardwoods. Of the 120,845,000 super. feet of log timber used, hardwoods of all kinds accounted for 62,692,000 super. feet - over half of the native logs used. Hoop and bunya pine amounted to 11,814,000 super. feet, cypress pine to 13,530,000 super. feet, and cabinet woods to 9,272,000 super. feet. The cut of plantation thinnings was 6,085,000 super. feet, while miscellaneous species of log timber measuring 12,868,000 super. feet were also used. A total of 3,408,000 super. feet of imported timber was used, mostly by plywood and veneer mills.

Logs Used in Statistical Divisions (see Table 4).

Consumption of log timber was highest in Moreton Division with 24.9m. super. feet, closely followed by Maryborough with 24.7m. super. feet and Cairns with 23.8m. super. feet. Downs Division cut 17.3m. super. feet, and the metropolitan area 13.5m. super. feet. The remainder of the State, principally Rockhampton and Roma Divisions, accounted for 16.6m. super. feet.

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BRISBANE.

9th July, 1957.

Table 1 - Logs Used - Species.

Species.	Quarter Ended -				
	31st Dec., 1955.	31st March, 1956.	30th June, 1956.	30th Sept., 1956. ^s	31st Dec., 1956. ^s
<u>Locally Grown -</u>	Super. Feet.	Super. Feet.	Super. Feet.	Super. Feet.	Super. Feet.
Hoop and Bunya Pine	11,711,917	8,427,337	8,030,319	9,459,762	11,813,698
Kauri Pine	1,236,669	1,288,761	1,039,053	1,131,640	1,176,121
Plantation Thinnings	5,240,743	4,556,562	5,167,132	4,609,147	6,085,232
Cypress Pine	12,119,147	8,760,848	10,428,875	11,703,517	13,529,735
Hardwoods	63,648,088	55,309,104	65,541,905	72,949,773	62,692,266
Cabinet Woods	7,631,429	7,636,875	8,706,521	9,378,580	9,271,554
Miscellaneous	15,111,123	13,388,406	13,951,864	15,366,738	12,868,464
<u>Imported</u>	4,766,013	3,972,743	4,345,234	4,347,855	3,407,921
<u>Total</u>	121,465,129	103,340,636	117,210,903	128,947,012	120,844,991

^s Subject to revision.

Table 2 - Mills Operating, December Quarter, 1956 - Statistical Divisions and Capacity Groups.

Statistical Division.	Capacity per Day.			Plywood and Vencer Mills, &c.	Total.
	Under 5,000 Super. Feet.	5,000 to 15,000 Super. Feet.	Over 15,000 Super. Feet.		
Metropolitan	34	20	4	11	69
Moreton ^a	129	50	6	2	187
Maryborough	84	41	8	1	134
Downs	71	33	3	-	107
Roma	24	6	-	-	30
South-Western	1	-	-	-	1
<u>Total South Q'land</u> ..	343	150	21	14	528
Rockhampton	44	11	1	-	56
Central-Western	6	2	-	-	8
Far-Western	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Central Q'land</u> ..	50	13	1	-	64
Mackay	12	6	-	-	18
Townsville	3	3	1	1	8
Cairns	39	36	10	22	107
Peninsula	-	1	-	-	1
North-Western	1	1	-	-	2
<u>Total North Q'land</u> ..	55	47	11	23	136
<u>Total Queensland</u> ..	448	210	33	37	728

^a Excluding Metropolitan.

Table 3 - Logs Used, December Quarter, 1956 - Species and Capacity Groups.

Species.	Capacity per Day.			Plywood and Veneer Mills, &c.	Total.
	Under 5,000 Sup. Ft.	5,000 to 15,000 Sup. Ft.	Over 15,000 Sup. Ft.		
<u>Locally Grown -</u>	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.
Pine - Hoop and Bunya ..	1,042	2,855	5,756	2,161	11,814
Kauri	82	160	98	836	1,176
Plantation Thinnings ..	1,447	2,433	2,140	65	6,085
Cypress	8,422	5,108	-	-	13,530
Hardwoods	19,920	33,255	9,475	42	62,692
Cabinet Woods	724	3,830	2,756	1,962	9,272
Miscellaneous	1,764	4,688	3,538	2,878	12,868
<u>Imported</u>	126	145	196	2,941	3,408
<u>Total</u>	33,527	52,474	23,959	10,885	120,845

Table 4 - Logs Used, December Quarter, 1956 - Statistical Divisions and Species.

Statistical Division.	Locally Grown.							Im- ported.	Total.
	Hoop and Bunya Pine.	Kauri Pine.	Plan- ta- tion Thin- nings.	Cypress Pine.	Hard- woods.	Cabinet Woods.	Miscell- aneous.		
	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.	1,000 Sup. Ft.
Metropolitan ..	3,855	-	-	8	5,982	432	327	2,874	13,478
Moreton ^a ..	2,600	-	1,698	47	19,381	78	746	408	24,958
Maryborough ..	4,600	3	2,567	54	17,389	24	35	-	24,672
Downs	538	-	1,703	8,893	5,526	-	669	-	17,329
Roma	-	-	-	3,642	17	-	-	-	3,659
South-Western ..	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	40
<u>Total S. Q'land</u>	11,593	3	5,968	12,684	48,295	534	1,777	3,282	84,136
Rockhampton ..	189	-	111	733	4,191	4	61	-	5,289
Central-Western ..	-	-	-	113	1,502	-	-	-	1,615
Far-Western ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total C. Q'land</u>	189	-	111	846	5,693	4	61	-	6,904
Mackay	32	-	-	-	1,316	-	652	-	2,000
Townsville	-	42	-	-	1,826	812	148	-	2,828
Cairns	-	1,101	6	-	4,857	7,881	9,963	-	23,808
Peninsula	-	30	-	-	6	41	267	-	344
North-Western ..	-	-	-	-	699	-	-	126	825
<u>Total N. Q'land</u>	32	1,173	6	-	8,704	8,734	11,030	126	29,805
<u>Total Q'land</u>	11,814	1,176	6,085	13,530	62,692	9,272	12,868	3,408	120,845

a Excluding Metropolitan.